

The cover states that the manuscript was completed in January of the present year, from which it may be inferred that the whole of the botanic literature for 1901 is not included. This is explicitly admitted in a notice on page xiv, in which it is stated that the second part of the volume will be issued in a few months.

Practically the whole of the literature published in Great Britain and Ireland is included, but only a portion of some other countries. Germany and the United States are well represented, France less so, while Italy seems quite unrepresented. Japan, in spite of its distance from the Central Bureau, is well to the front, a sign of the energy of that enterprising nation.

It is to be hoped that this endeavour to supply promptly a review of the scientific literature of the world will be successful, and thus supply the worker with information so much needed; in that case the new venture of the Royal Society will earn the hearty thanks of every working naturalist.

The Fauna of British India, including Ceylon and Burma. Published under the authority of the Secretary of State for India in Council. Edited by W. T. BLANFORD.—*Rhynchota.* Vol. I. (*Heteroptera*). By W. L. DISTANT. London, &c., 1902. Pp. xxxviii, 438.

THIS valuable series of works on the Fauna of British India continues to make steady progress, and we have now to record the appearance of a volume dealing with the first three families (Pentatomidæ, Coreidæ, and Berytidæ) of the suborder Rhynchota (or Hemiptera) Heteroptera, which comprises the true bugs. Though not one of the largest orders of insects, it includes a considerable number of handsome and interesting forms, and many of the shield-bugs (formerly placed in a distinct family, but now usually included in the Pentatomidæ) rival the most brilliant beetles in their rich metallic hues; and, indeed, many of them might easily be mistaken for beetles at a first glance but for the antennæ; and for the scutellum, which latter often overlaps and covers the wings and wing-cases, and is not divided by a suture down the middle, as are the wing-cases of beetles, which correspond in function and appearance to the scutellum of the shield-bugs.

The general scheme of the work is the same as in previous volumes.

Mr. Blanford's preface informs us of the progress of the present series of works, from which we gather that volumes on Ants by Col. C. T. Bingham, Longicorn Coleoptera by Mr. C. J. Gahan, and another on Land-Mollusca (author not stated) may be expected in the immediate future. Then follows a list of the principal works quoted in the synonymy (pp. v-xi), the Systematic Index (pp. xiii-xxii), the Introduction, the descriptive part of the work, and the Alphabetical Index.

The Introduction details the materials used in the composition of the volume, proceeds to discuss the structure, habits, classification, &c. of the Rhynchota, illustrated by a series of excellent diagrams, and concludes with a synopsis of the families of the Heteroptera.

Mr. Distant's name is a sufficient guarantee for the care and accuracy with which the systematic portion of the book has evidently been compiled; and a word of praise is due to Mr. H. Knight for the series of 249 illustrations in the text, which are among the most excellent which we have seen. They are without colour; but this deficiency is less noticeable in Rhynchota, with their simple colours and patterns, than in the case of Lepidoptera, for instance, with their strongly marked colours and complicated patterns, for the adequate representation of which coloured figures are often almost indispensable.

Palæontologia Indica. Series XV. *Himálayan Fossils*. Vol. III. Part 1. *Upper Triassic Cephalopod Fauna of the Himálaya*. By Dr. EDMUND MOJSISOVICS, EDLEM VON MOJSVAR, Imp. Acad. Vienna, &c. Translated by Dr. ARTHUR H. FOORD, F.G.S., and Mrs. A. H. FOORD. Folio. 157 pages, 22 plates, and some woodcuts. Calcutta: Geol. Survey Office. London: Kegan Paul & Co. 1899.

THE Introduction (pages 1-4) gives some account of the history of the collecting of these Triassic Fossils of the Himálaya and of the description of allied forms by several authors. The species referred to in the following list are described with few exceptions at pages 5-126.

AMMONEA TRACHY- OSTRACA.		No. of Species.		No. of Species.
A. TROPITOIDEA.			<i>b.</i> Dittmarites	1
Halorites	5		<i>c.</i> Clionites	6
Jovites	3		<i>d.</i> Steinmannites.....	5
Parajuvavites	13		<i>e.</i> Dionites	1
Juvavites.			II. Heraclitea.	
<i>a.</i> Anatomites.....	3		Heraclites(Guembelites)	1
<i>b.</i> Griesbachites	2		Tibetites.	
Isculites	2		<i>a.</i> Tibetites, s. s.....	4
[Woodcut, p. 41.]			[Woodcut, p. 78.]	
Sagenites	4		<i>b.</i> Anatibetites	2
[Woodcut, p. 41.]			<i>c.</i> Paratibetites	5
Didymites	1		[Woodcut, p. 84.]	
Tropites	5		Hauerites.....	1
Styrites	2		III. Trachyceratea.	
Eutomoceras	2		Trachyceras.	
Thetidites	2		<i>a.</i> Protrachyceras ...	1
B. CERATITOIDEA.			<i>b.</i> Trachyceras, s. s. .	1
I. Dinaritea.			Saudlingites.....	2
Ceratites.			Sirenites	3
<i>a.</i> Helictites	1		AMMONEA LEIOSTRACA.	
<i>b.</i> Thisbites	1		A. ARCESTOIDEA.	
Arpadites.			Arcestes.	
<i>a.</i> Arpadites, s. s. ...	3		Stenarcestes	1
[Woodcut, p. 58.]			[Woodcut, p. 97.]	